

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 OMB-01 /081 W

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R 291450Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 558

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU, LY

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS ON LIBYAN-TURKISH RELATION

1. MASS-CIRCULATION HURRIYET AUGUST 26 CARRIED PROMINENT STORY TO EFFECT LIBYA HAD UNEXPECTEDLY SUBMITTED A BILL AND WAS SEEKING IMMEDIATE PAYMENT FOR WAR MATERIAL AND FUEL SUPPLIED DURING TURKISH INTERVENTION IN CYPRUS LAST YEAR. ACCORDING TO THIS STORY, AT MEETING OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AUGUST 21 PRIMIN DEMIREL SAID LIBYA HAD SUPPLIED MATERIAL AND HAD ASKED IRAQ TO DO SO ALSO ON LIBYA'S ACCOUNT, AND THEREFORE TURKEY WAS OBLIGED TO PAY DEBT NO MATTER HOW LARGE IT MIGHT BE.

2. AUGUST 26, FOLLOWING ANOTHER MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, DEMIREL REPORTEDLY SAID IN RESPONSE TO A REPORTER'S QUESTION THAT THE BILL PRESENTED BY LIBYA WAS NOT A LARGE ONE AND IT WOULD BE PAID.

3. AUGUST 28 HURRIYET CARRIED FOLLOW-UP STORY CLAIMING BILL WAS 150 MILLION TURKISH LIRA (APPROXIMATELY \$10 MILLION).

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STORY ALSO QUOTED REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY DEPUTY BAYKAL,

WHO WAS FINANCE MINISTER AT THE TIME OF CYPRUS INTERVENTION, AS SAYING GOT HAD TRIED TO PAY THE BILL EARLIER BUT GOL HAD REFUSED TO ACCEPT PAYMENT. HE ALSO SAID THAT IF LIBYANS NOW WANT PAYMENT IT SHOULD BE MADE IMMEDIATELY.

4. AUGUST 29 EDITIONS OF TERCUMAN AND BARIS CARRIED STATEMENT BY LIBYAN AMBASSADOR IN ANKARA DENYING ON INSTRUCTIONS OF LIBYAN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL THAT A BILL HAD BEEN PRESENTED. HE ACCUSED UNNAMED FORCES OF TRYING TO UNDERMINE THE STRONG TIES BETWEEN LIBYA AND TURKEY.

5. DURING A CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS AUGUST 29, FARUK CELILOGLU, DIRECTOR OF MFA OFFICE OF NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS, SAID HURRIYET STORY COMPLETELY FALSE. EARLIER THIS MONTH LIBYA DID PRESENT TURKEY WITH BILL FOR APPROXIMATELY \$50,000 FOR FUEL PURCHASED BY TURKISH AIRCRAFT DURING STOPOVERS IN LIBYA. CELILOGLU SPECULATED HURRIYET REPORTER HAD OVERHEARD SOME MINISTER MENTION THAT THE BILL HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND HAD JUMPED TO THE INCORRECT CONCLUSION IT WAS FOR THE ASSISTANCE LIBYA HAD PROVIDED DURING THE CYPRUS INTERVENTION. MACOMBER

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